

Serial No.: 09/683,381  
Attorney Docket No.: F-442

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REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3600

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of: ) Attorney Docket No.: F-442  
Robert A. Cordery, et al. ) Customer No.: 00919  
Serial No.: 09/683,381 ) Examiner: Woo, Richard Sukyoon  
Filed: December 19, 2001 ) Group Art Unit: 3629  
Confirmation # 7716 ) Date: January 23, 2004

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR NOTIFYING MAIL USERS OF MAIL  
PIECE CONTAMINATION

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 23, 2003 FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO BOX 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the October 23, 2003 Final Office Action ("Office Action"). A response is due January 23, 2004. A Notice of Appeal is filed concurrently herewith and this response is timely. Entry of the following amendment and consideration of the enclosed remarks are respectfully requested. The Amendments are submitted solely to place the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal. The following sections are enclosed:

1. Amendment to the Claims; and
2. Remarks.

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, on January 23, 2004 (Date of Transmission).  
George M. Macdonald, Reg. No. 39,284 (Name of Registered Rep.)

(Signature)

January 23, 2004 (Date)